

# A Look Back & A Look Forward

December 31, 2017

During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.

We have much to say about this, but it is hard to make it clear to you because you no longer try to understand. In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

— Hebrews 5:7-14

- \* Jesus — example  
“he learned obedience”
  
- \* Our—example
  - ⊖ Slow to learn
    - ✓ still an infant, need milk
    - ✓ repeating the same behaviors and expecting different results = insanity.
  
  - ⊕ Forward to maturity
    - ✓ Be a teacher
    - ✓ solid food, trained themselves
    - ✓ Righteousness

## Reflective Questions:

- 1) What did God teach you in 2017? What did you learn?
- 2) How will 2018 have positive spiritual results for you and through you?
- 3) How did God speak to you through the Scripture today?



## Financial Support

Your generous giving as we conclude this calendar year will help us erase a \$10,000 deficit for 2017. This is the last day to receive your contributions for 2017.

## **Beginning the New Year — Sundays . . . (January 7 & 14)**

Tyler and Barry preach on themes for 2018 that will shape our lives and our community for the better:

True Power and True Community